9. Sport Goods Export Promotion Council,
1-E/6, Swami Ram Tirth Nagar,
Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055

10. Export Promotion Council for EOUs & SEZ Units,
705, Bhikaji Cama Bhawan,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110 066

11. Pharmexcil
101, Aditya Trade Centre,
Ameerpeth, Hyderabad-500 038.

Steps to protect interest of arecanut producers

2572. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka is the leading producer of arecanut in the country in terms of area, quantity and quality;

(b) whether inferior quality arecanut is smuggled into the country in larger quantity from Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Thailand;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether such smuggling is adversely affecting the interest of indigenous arecanut producers; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Centre to protect their interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) No authentic information is available on smuggling of inferior quality of arecanut into the country. However, in order to prevent illegal entry of arecanut into the country, necessary instructions to the customs officials have been issued by the Ministry of Finance.

India's share in world export of tobacco

2573. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of India in world export of Tobacco during the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 upto 28th February, 2006 and whether there is

increase or decrease in export of Indian tobacco in comparison to immediate preceding years;

(b) the steps taken to boost export of tobacco;

(c) whether Gutka is also exported; and

(d) the names of the countries where Gutka is exported and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The share of Indian exports in the world tobacco trade was about 6.5% during 2004-05 and 7% during 2005-06. There is an increase in export of Indian tobacco in these two years when compared to immediately preceding years;

(b) The Tobacco Board provides assistance to farmers to re-orient the production of tobacco to meet the changing international demands and quality, through various extension and developmental schemes such as model project areas, integrated pest management & quality circles etc. The Board undertakes an extensive advertisement campaign in the international media to promote Indian tobacco. The Board also invites trade delegations from important markets and facilitates dialogue with them.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Major countries where Gutka and other forms of chewing tobacco is exported are South Africa, Iran, Afghanistan, UAE, UK, Kuwait, USA, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Malaysia, Singapore and Tanzania, The export of chewing tobacco products including Gutka for the last three years are indicated below:—

Year	Qty (tons)	Value	
		Rs. Crore	Million US $
2003-04	2944	123.37	26.34
2004-05	3778	140.97	31.64
2005-06	5669	170.95	39.00

*Source:*Tobacco Board